

Message Text

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ACTION SP-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PC-01

AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-01 ABF-01 H-01

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R 310430Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3449

C O N F I D E N T I A L SUVA 1038

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SGEN, FJ

SUBJECT: FY 76 PEACE CORPS PROGRAM

REF: STATE 236947

1. FOLLOWING RESPOND TO QUESTIONS IN PARA FIVE REFTEL:

(A) FY 75 GOF CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE CORPS PROGRAM AMOUNTED TO US \$75,400 IN KIND, ZERO IN CASH. BASED ON CONTINUING WORK OVER PAST FOUR MONTHS BELIEVE CAN SAFELY ASSUME FY76 CONTRIBUTION WILL BE APPROXIMATELY US \$90,000 IN KIND PLUS US \$70,300 IN CASH. THIS WILL DEFRAY SOME BUT NOT ALL ANTICIPATED INFLATIONARY INCREASES.

(B) GOF WANTS AND NEEDS TO CONTINUE PROGRAM BUT EMBASSY DOUBTS IT COULD ALLOCATE MORE OF ALREADY OVER COMMITTED BUDGET, SERIOUSLY STRAINED BY RISING FUEL COSTS, TO PEACE CORPS SUPPORT.

(C) PEACE CORPS REPRESENTS ONLY US BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO FIJI AND ITS TERMINATION WOULD BE IN EFFECT ABANDONMENT OF AID TO AREA OF WORLD WHICH HAS IMPORTANCE AND WHICH HAS HAD AND COULD AGAIN HAVE VITAL IMPORTANCE TO US.

(D) NOT APPLICABLE.

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(E) ON BALANCE, EMBASSY WOULD PREFER PHASING DOWN

RATHER THAN INSISTING UPON INCREASED CONTRIBUTION, BUT VIEWS
OF GOF SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN ANY DECISION. SINCE FIJI DOES
CONTRIBUTE AND HAS INDICATED INTENTION TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTION
BELIEVE THIS QUESTION NOT ENTIRELY APPLICABLE.

2. RE PARA TEN REFTTEL, EMBASSY HOPES ACTION TAKES INTO CONSIDER-
ATION PRESENT LEVELS HOST COUNTRY CONTRIBUTIONS IN WORKING
OUT FORMULA. IN THIS RESPECT, EMBASSY FEELS FIJI ALREADY
DEMONSTRATES HIGH LEVEL OF COMMITMENT TO PEACE
CORPS.
HALL

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